WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Poor performance of ITDC

*425. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:
SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the performance of ITDC has been poor as compared to other hotel groups in the country; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken by Government to improved its performance in the country rather than having tie-ups with other hotels abroad?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) The role of ITDC in providing hotel accommodation in the country has been that of a catalyst where the private sector investment has not been forthcoming Its role includes developmental, promotional as well as commercial as against the role of private sector hotels which has been commercial only. However, the performance of ITDC's Hotels Divisions has been encouraging as can be seen from the following table:

Year	%Room occupancy	Turnover	Operating profit/ loss(—)	Net profit/ loss(—)
			Rupees in	lakhs
1985-86	61	5046 36	1287.48	267.91
1986-87	69	5874.31	1487 17	418.06
1987-88	70	6566.21	1628.55	479.50

Improvement in the performance of ITDC hotels has been a continuous process. The various steps which ITDC has been taking for this purpose inter alia include: (1) Participation in Travel Trade Forums; (2) Promoting its properties; (3) Greater thrust in advertising; (4) Product improvement; (5) Exercising control on expenditure; (6) Introduction of special package tours for promoting domestic tourism, etc.

Development of Tourist spots in J & K

*426. SHRI DHARAM PAL: Will the MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the places, which have been identified by Government for development to attract tourists in the central sector in J&K State;

(b) what is the total expenditure incurred on these projects, so far; and

(c) whether an integrated Tourist Complex comprising Katra, Salal Lake and Patni Top will be Surveyed and taken up in the central sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) Identification of centres and formulation of proposals for central financial assistance are done by the State Governments concerned. The Department of Tourism provides financial assistance to States for development of tourism infrastructure on the basis of specific proposals received from the State Governments.

The Department of Tourism has provided financial assistance for the development of the following tourist centres in J & K:—

1. Gulmarg
2. Patni Top
3. Srinagar
4. Jammu
5. Avantipur
6. Martand
7. Pandrethan
8. Pahalgam
9. Qazigund
10. Dyalachowk
11. Udhampur
12. Mansar
13. Hemis Gompa